

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

In June 2013, the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices announced that Massachusetts and five other states (Connecticut, Hawaii, Illinois, Nevada, and Pennsylvania) had been selected to participate in a national policy academy entitled Building a Foundation for Student Success: *State Strategies to Improve Learning Outcomes from Early Childhood through 3rd Grade*. With the generous support of the National Governors Association, Massachusetts is developing a comprehensive birth through grade 3 policy agenda, and the foundation of this agenda is the identification of essential competencies that all children must demonstrate in order to be on the pathway to college, career, and lifelong success. In addition, this agenda will include strategies to enhance our early learning standards, develop a birth through grade 3 assessment system, enhance educator effectiveness, and provide comprehensive support to children and families.

Thank you very much for attending this event. You will receive information about future events and opportunities to contribute to our work, but if you have any questions or need additional information about our policy agenda, please contact Saeyun Lee (saeyun.lee@bhe.mass.edu) at the Department of Higher Education.

**Liz Belsito**, Department of Early Education and Care

**Anna Bradfield**, Readiness Centers Network

**Mary Jane Crotty**, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

**Betsy Edes**, Department of Early Education and Care

**Winifred Hagan**, Department of Higher Education

**Stacey Kaminski**, Readiness Centers Network

**Saeyun Lee**, Department of Higher Education

**Chau Ly**, Department of Early Education and Care

**Douglas McNally**, Readiness Centers Network

**Carol Nolan**, Department of Early Education and Care

**Amy O'Leary**, Strategies for Children

**Donna Traynham**, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education



## BIRTH THROUGH GRADE 3 POLICY FORUM

# Developing Strategic Pathways to College and Career Success

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Friday, May 16, 2014



50 Foster Street, Worcester, MA 01608

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Sponsored by the Department of Early Education and Care, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Department of Higher Education, the Readiness Centers Network, and Strategies for Children with the generous support of the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices

AGENDA

10:00 AM    **Welcome and Introduction**    NORTH BALLROOM

- **Saeyun D. Lee**, Senior Assistant Commissioner for Academic Affairs at the Department of Higher Education
- **Albert Wat**, Senior Policy Analyst at the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices

**Opening Remarks**

- **Thomas L. Weber**, Commissioner of Early Education and Care
- **Mitchell D. Chester**, Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education
- **Richard M. Freeland**, Commissioner of Higher Education

**Keynote Address**

**Ralph Smith**, Managing Director for the Campaign for Grade Level Reading and Senior Vice President of the Annie E. Casey Foundation

**Panel Discussion**

***Effective Practices and Models for Increasing Alignment from Birth through Grade 3***

MODERATOR: **Amy O’Leary**, Director of the Early Education for All Campaign, Strategies for Children

- **Kristine Hazzard**, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Berkshire United Way
- **Dexter Johnson Sr.**, Vice President of Operations and Education for the YMCA of Greater Springfield
- **Alex Morse**, Mayor of the City of Holyoke
- **Sergio Páez**, Superintendent of the Holyoke Public Schools
- **Jason Sachs**, Director of Early Childhood Education for the Boston Public Schools

12:00 PM    **Lunch**    NORTH BALLROOM

1:00 PM    **Small Group Discussion Sessions**

***Birth through Grade 3 Assessment Framework***    SOUTH BALLROOM

FACILITATOR: **Albert Wat**, National Governors Association

PANELISTS:

- **Chris Hunt**, Early Learning Director at Community Teamwork in Lowell
- **Terry O’Neill**, Early Childhood District Support Specialist for the Lowell Public Schools
- **Jason Sachs**, Boston Public Schools

***Building the Foundation for College and Career Readiness for Children from Birth through Grade 3***    JUNIOR BALLROOM

FACILITATOR: **Saeyun Lee**, Department of Higher Education

***Educator Preparation and Effectiveness***    CONFERENCE ROOM A

FACILITATOR: **Winifred Hagan**, Director of Education Policy at the Department of Higher Education

PANELISTS:

- **Carol Donnelly**, Chair of the Education Department at Worcester State University
- **Anne Douglass**, Assistant Professor at the University of Massachusetts Boston
- **Kate Finnegan**, Professor and Education Department Coordinator at Greenfield Community College
- **Clarke Fowler**, Interim Chair of the Department of Childhood Education at Salem State University
- **Ray Lewis**, Associate Dean of Education and Professor of Mathematics at Worcester State University
- **Charlene Mara**, President of the Massachusetts Community College Early Childhood Coordinators Association and Faculty Coordinator of the Early Childhood Program at Quinsigamond Community College
- **Greg Nelson**, Professor of Early Childhood Education at Bridgewater State University and President of the Massachusetts Association of Early Childhood Teacher Educators

***Local Leadership and Capacity***    CONFERENCE ROOM D

FACILITATORS: **Amy O’Leary**, Director of the Early Education for All Campaign, Strategies for Children and **Kristine Hazzard**, Berkshire United Way

***Massachusetts Kindergarten Entry Assessment***    CONFERENCE ROOM B

FACILITATOR: **Betsy Edes**, Early Education Coordinator at the Department of Early Education and Care

PANELISTS:

- **Gabrielle Abrams**, Director of Early Education and Primary Education for the Marlborough Public Schools
- **Barbara Black**, Early Childhood Coordinator for the North Hampton Public Schools
- **Donna Dankner**, Principal at the Green Meadow School in the Maynard Public Schools

***Preschool Social and Emotional Learning Standards***    CONFERENCE ROOM E

FACILITATOR: **Mary Jane Crotty**, Coordinator of Learning Support Programs at the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

PRESENTER: **Stephanie Jones**, Associate Professor at the Harvard Graduate School of Education

***Provision of Comprehensive Support Services for Children and Families***    CONFERENCE ROOM C

Facilitator – Abby Weiss, Project Director of the Education Redesign Lab at the Harvard Graduate School of Education and Consultant to the Executive Office of Education

PANELISTS:

- **Barbara Allard**, Director of Early Childhood and Wrap-Around Zone Coordinator for the Fall River Public Schools
- **Megan Harding**, Full Service Community Schools Manager at the Holyoke Public Schools
- **Robert Kilkenny**, Founder and Executive Director of the Alliance for Inclusion and Prevention
- **Emily York McConarty**, Program Director for Communities In Schools
- **Lizoette Young**, School Liaison at the Lawrence/Methuen Community Coalition

2:45 PM    **Reflections and Reports from Small Group Discussion Sessions**    NORTH BALLROOM

3:30 PM    **Closing Remarks**    NORTH BALLROOM